





Ynson Mounds State Archaeological Area / 460 Ozier Road / Pinson , TN 38366

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TENNESSEE STATE PARKS PINSON MOUNDS STATE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AREA BEST IN THE NATION



Pinson Mounds State Archaeological Area

is one of two state archaeological parks. The archaeological complex consists of at least 17 earthen mounds that encompass more than 400 acres of the 1,200 acre park. Pinson is the largest Middle Woodland period (200 B.C. to 500 A.D.) mound center of the Southeast. Saul's Mound, at 72 feet, is the second tallest mound in the United States.

Pinson Mounds was first documented in modern history in 1820 by a surveying crew and named after one of the surveyors, Joel Pinson. In the 1950s and 60s, local citizens requested the state purchase the land to preserve it as a park. Pinson Mounds is a National Historic Landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Group Camp

Includes a central lodge and 4 cabins, available March through October (deposit required). Lodge contains a furnished kitchen, shower/restroom facilities, and meeting area. Cabins contain four twin bunk beds to house a total of 32 occupants. Guests must bring linens.

Picnic Facilities and Playground

Pinson Mounds has 24 picnic sites, a playground, and two rental picnic pavilions. The picnic pavilions (deposit required) include tables, restrooms and grills.

Hiking and Bicycling Trails

The park's archaeological features and wildlife can be viewed along six miles of interconnecting trail. The gravel/paved trail sections are bicycle/wheelchair accessible. Hiking trails, which do not permit bicycles, are of easy to moderate level.

Flora and fauna of three intersecting ecosystems (a cypress swamp, mixed beech-oak slopes, and oak-hickory uplands) are viewable along these trails.

Museum

The park museum is designed to replicate a prehistoric Native American mound. The museum includes an archaeological library, an 80-seat theater, a gift shop, park offices, and the West Tennessee Regional Archaeology Office. The museum focuses on Tennessee's prehistory. Exhibits include prehistoric Native American tools, trade, ceremony; archaeological fieldwork; and the history of the Pinson site.

Planned Programs

Park related video presentations are available in the museum auditorium. Group tours and interpretive programs may be arranged by contacting the park office in advance.

Summer programming on the site's archaeological, cultural, and natural resources are offered Memorial Day through Labor Day.



